



Michigan Coin Machine Operators Association

Testimony Regarding Smoking Ban in Michigan Submitted by President Richard Massa

The MCMOA is opposed to the statewide smoking ban being proposed by legislators. The following bullet points outline the issues that would arise from the passage of a complete smoking ban in Michigan:

- The MCMOA is an association comprised of various owners of coin-operated machines, including video games, pool tables, dart boards, and cigarette vending machines.
- The MCMOA owns many coin-operated machines in bars, restaurants, and fraternal organizations (VFW, American Legion, Knights of Columbus, Eagles, etc.) throughout the state.
- The short term economic impact of the passage of this legislation would be devastating to several community bars; this creates a ripple effect, as many coin operated machines are housed in such establishments. Therefore, the close of bars due to a ban on smoking will devastate the coin-op industry as well.
- While some reports show overall business in bars and restaurants to increase after the ban is in effect for several years, in the short term, business has been noted, in states already imposing a ban, to decrease dramatically. This is not the economy to test this sort of ban in. There are enough Michigan residents without jobs without adding restaurant workers and bar owners to the list.
- It is not illegal to purchase a pack of cigarettes; it should not be illegal to smoke them in public areas.
- The MCMOA would fully support a workplace smoking ban that excludes Class C liquor license establishments.